

Remarks

With the cancellation of claims 9-22 and 26-31, claims 1-8, 23-25, and 32-43 are now pending in the above-referenced application.

Claims 1-3, 6, 8, 23, 32-34, 37, 39, 40, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,510,273 to Quinn ("Quinn"). Applicants have amended each one of independent claims 1, 23, 32, 40, and 43 to recite that the solid state element is flexible. Support for this amendment is found at least in Figures 1, 7, and 8, and in page 3, lines 10-20. Unlike the claimed invention, Quinn teaches placing rigid semiconductor chips onto a substrate. In particular, a defined distance between neighboring chips is achieved by preliminarily urging the flexible substrate against a workpiece, placing the rigid chips onto the substrate without deforming the chips, and releasing the substrate from the workpiece. In contrast, the claimed invention permits the solid state element to be curved together with the substrate. The advantage is that due to this flexibility of the solid state element, the detector arrangement becomes simplified, adaptable, and thermomechanically robust. Accordingly, in view of this discussion, allowance of the above-referenced claims is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 23, 32, 40, and 43 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,991,467 to Kamiko ("Kamiko"). Since Kamiko has the same deficiencies as noted above with respect to Quinn, Applicants submit that these claims are patentable over Kamiko for at least the same reasons given in support of their patentability over Quinn.

Claims 4, 5, 7, 24, 25, 35, 36, 38, 41, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Quinn. Applicants submit that these claims are patentable for at least the same reasons given in support of the patentability of claims 1, 23, 32, 40, and 43.

8

Applicants assert that the present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful. Consideration and allowance of the claims are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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